stem and also meet the needs of providing a safe modern military Airport in this area; and

(e) if so, what steps are being taken/ proposed to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Exhibition of products of Ordnance factories in Abu Dhabi

4700. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is one of the participants in an exhibition of military arms at Abu Dhabi for sale in Gulf region; and

(b) whether it is also proposed to exhibit products of Indian ordnance factories to solve the problem of surplus capacity in small arms output in Indian production units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) As a part of our export promotion effort, Ordnance Factory Board, six defence public sector undertakings, Defence Research & Development Organisation and some companies in the public and private sector participated in the International Defence Exhibition (IDEX'95) held at Abu Dhabi from 19 to 23 March 1995. Participation in this exhibition has helped in creating better awareness about our defence products and has enhanced the potential of our exports.

Any export will constitute an additionally to the turn over of the Indian production units and will reusult in higher efficiency and lower costs.

Offshore patrol vessel

4701. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Goa Shipyard Limited has built the second advanced offshore patrol vessel "Sangram" to guard the Indian Coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof with name of the builder of the first advanced offshore patrol vessel;

(c) whether Government propose to ask other Public Sector Coastal State Industrial Units to build similar offshore patrol vessels in future to guard the entire Indian Ocean; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):' (a) and (b) This vessel is in an advanced stage of construction. The first such vessel, which is at present undergoing trials, has also been built by Goa Shipyard Limited.

(c) and (d) The normal procedure for award of contracts will be followed.

Recruitment in Indian Army

4702 SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India's attention has been drawn towards the news-item captioned 'Indian army waging a losing battel on the recruitment front' which appeared in the Indian Express, Bombay dated February 18, 1995; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (b) No scientific study has so far been made by the Government on the issue of employment preferences of the youth. A very large number of youth continue to appear for selection in the Army. The pay and allowances of Army personnel are at par

with those of civil employees of Central Government of equivalent status. In addition, the Armed Forces personnel are given a number of other perquisites and facilities not admissible to civilian employees. Review of terms and conditions of Defence Services is an on-going process and such revisions as are considered desirable and feasible are made from time to time.

Gun development team in Ordnance Factory Jabalpur

4703. SHRI SHIV PRASAD CHANPURIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any 'gun development team' existing inside the Ordnance Factory GCF Jabalpur under Ministry of Defence and if so, since when it is existing;

(b) what are their achievements and contributions to the defence forces of the country;

(c) whether any awards were given to any member of^thc team;

(d) whether it is permanent;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether there is any move to shift the team elsewhere and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The Gun Development team was constituted temporarily in 1964 and was wound up on 31 December 1991.

(b) The team had developed Indian Mountain Gun System, Indian Field Gun System and its lighter version.

(c) Three service officers of the team were given awards for their work.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The team was formed on a temporary basis for specific projects.

(0 Does not arise in view of answers to parts (d) and (e) above.

Overhauling of unviable defence production units

4704. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some unviable defence productions units are to undertake a mr sive overhauling programme to overcon their shortcomings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any action plan has be* drawn therefor; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) The Ord ance Factory Board and the defence pub lic sector undertakings have plans for selective modernisation of their produ tion facilities. The plans are evolved aft a thorough consideration of technical an commercial aspects. As regards details plans, it will not be in the public intere to disclose.

Concern expressed by Japan on hill military expenditure

4705. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japanese Govern me have recently conveyed its concern over assistance being given to countries with high military expenditure, if so, tl details thereof;

(b) whether a Japanese Government high level mission on economic at technical cooperation has recently sougl clarification from Indian Government regarding its nuclear, plans alongwith it ballistic development and deployme initiatives as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 30th March, 1995; an

(c) if so, the details thereof an reactions of Government thereto?